# **Vocal Group Hall of Fame**

The **Vocal Group Hall of Fame (VGHF)** was organized by <u>Tony Butala</u>, also the founder (and now only surviving original member) of <u>the Lettermen</u>, to honor outstanding vocal groups throughout the world. Headquartered in <u>Sharon, Pennsylvania</u>, United States, it includes a theater and a museum.

The VGHF typically inducts sixteen artists annually. Unlike the <u>Rock and Roll Hall of Fame</u>, artists are inducted within categories. Each category has at least one representative. The categories are 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, and duos. Only groups are eligible; solo artists may be inducted if they have a legitimate backing band with backing singers (for example, <u>Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers</u>). The Vocal Group Hall of Fame releases a public ballot; allowing everyone to vote for both the nominees and the inductees.

It was originally organized in 1998. The original administration closed it in October 2001 and a new nonprofit organization took over, reopening it in April 2002.

In November 2005, the museum moved out of its rented three-story facility and is currently in the process of relocating to the ca. 1920-built Columbia Theatre, also in Sharon, which it is renovating to serve both as its central office and as the location for its annual induction ceremony and benefit concerts. The museum is being moved to a three-story restaurant building adjacent to the theater (the restaurant portion will become a vocal group-themed bar and grill). The operating organization plans to open two museum annexes, one in Las Vegas and the other in Wildwood, New Jersey.

With the help of <u>Jon Bauman</u>, the VGHF is actively promoting the <u>Truth In Music Bill</u>, announcing whenever it passes in specific states. The Truth In Music Bill was created to protect the artists from <u>identity theft</u>, or ensuring at least one of the people performing in a group using the name actually performed on one of the albums. Through 2012, the Truth in Music Bill was law in 34 states. The main beneficiaries are the surviving members of <u>the Platters</u>, <u>the Coasters</u>, <u>the Drifters</u>, and <u>the Marvelettes</u>, iconic groups victimized by Larry Marshak and other promoters of impostor groups.

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#### Address

Vocal Group Hall of Fame and Museum, 82 West State Street, Sharon, PA 16146

Chairman/Founder: Tony Butala

CEO: Bob Crosby

## **Vocal Group Hall of Fame Inductees**

#### 1998-2002

**1998**<sup>[2]</sup> **1999**<sup>[4]</sup> **2000**<sup>[5]</sup> **2001**<sup>[6]</sup> **2002**<sup>[7]</sup>

- The Ames Brothers<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Coasters
- The Bangles
- Bee Gees
- ABBA
- The Chordettes
- The Chantels

- The Andrews Sisters<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Beach Boys<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Boswell Sisters<sup>[3]</sup>
- Crosby, Stills & Nash<sup>[3]</sup>
- Clyde McPhatter & The (Original) Drifters<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Five Blind Boys of Mississippi<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Golden Gate Ouartet<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Manhattan Transfer
- The Mills Brothers<sup>[3]</sup>
- The Platters
- The Ravens
- Sonny Til & The Orioles
- The Supremes

- The Delta Rhythm Boys
- The Four Seasons •
- The Four Tops
- Hank Ballard & The Midnighters
- The Ink Spots
- The Jackson Five
- Little Anthony & The Imperials
- The Modernaires
- The Moonglows
- Peter, Paul and Mary
- The Revelers
- The Spinners
- The Temptations

- Ben E. King and The Drifters
- Dion and The Belmonts
- Dixie Hummingbirds
- The Flamingos
- Frankie Lymon & The Teenagers
- The Kingston Trio
- The Mamas & The Papas
- The Skylarks
- The Soul Stirrers
- Three Dog Night

- Eagles
- The Four Aces
- The Four Freshmen
- Gladys Knight and The Pips
- The Lennon Sisters
- The Lettermen
- The McGuire Sisters
- Michigan Jake
- The Oak Ridge Boys
- The Pied Pipers
- **Smokey Robinson** and The Miracles
- The Vogues
- The Weavers

- The Clovers
- The 5th Dimension
- The Five Keys
- The Four Knights
- The Harptones
- Jay and The **Americans**
- The Marcels
- The Shirelles
- The Skyliners
- The Swan Silvertones

## 2003-2007

#### **2003**<sup>[8]</sup>

- The Association
- The Charioteers
- The Commodores
- Danny & The Juniors
- Earth, Wind & Fire
- The Five Satins
- The Four Lads
- The Impressions
- The Isley Brothers
- Martha & The Vandellas
- The Merry Macs<sup>[9]</sup>
- Peerless Quartet
- The Whispers

- 2004<sup>[10]</sup>
  - Alabama<sup>[11]</sup>
  - American Quartet
- The Beatles
- The Cadillacs
- The Crests
- The Dells
- The Diamonds
- The Doobie **Brothers**
- The Everly **Brothers**
- The Four Tunes
- The Jordanaires
- The Marvelettes
- The O'Jays
- The Penguins
- The Ronettes
- The Stylistics
- The Tokens

## 2005<sup>[12]</sup>

- The Angels
  - Brooklyn Bridge<sup>[13]</sup>
  - The Chi-Lites
  - The Chiffons
  - The Crystals
  - The Del-Vikings

  - The Hilltoppers The Mel-Tones
  - The Neville **Brothers**
  - The Pointer Sisters
  - The Rascals
  - The Righteous **Brothers**
  - Sons of the Pioneers
  - The Spaniels
  - The Tymes

#### 2006<sup>[14]</sup>

- America Billy Ward & The **Dominoes**
- Bread
- The Byrds<sup>[15]</sup>
- **Deep River Boys**
- The Duprees
- The
- Fleetwoods<sup>[16]</sup>
- Haydn Quartet<sup>[17]</sup>
- The Hi-Lo's
- The Hollies
- Journey<sup>[18]</sup> The Lovin'
- Spoonful
- The Moody Blues
- Queen
- The Shangri-Las
- Simon & Garfunkel

## 2007[19][17]

- The Capris<sup>[20]</sup> (1960s)
- The Chords<sup>[21]</sup> (1950s)
- The Dixie Cups<sup>[22]</sup> (1960s)
- The Five Red Caps<sup>[23]</sup> (1940s)
- The Four Preps (1950s)
- Maurice Williams and the Zodiacs; The Gladiolas (1950s)
- Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes (1970s)
- The Hoboken Four (Pioneer Award)
- The Jive Five<sup>[24]</sup> (1960s)
- Kool & The Gang<sup>[25]</sup> (1970s)
- The Monkees (1960s)

- Ruby & The Romantics<sup>[26]</sup>
   (1960s)
- Sam & Dave<sup>[27]</sup>
  (Duo Award)
- Sly & The Family Stone<sup>[28]</sup> (1960s)
- Tony Orlando and Dawn (1970s)
- The Traveling Wilburys (1980s)

### See also

List of music museums

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## **External links**

Vocal Group Hall of Fame (http://www.vocalgroup.org/) home page

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